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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **A METHOD OF AUTOMATICALLY ANALYSING THE STRUCTURE OF A SOFTWARE SYSTEM**

(57) Abstract: The invention automatically produces a structural analysis of a software system's executables, separated into levels based on 'dependency depth'. Given a simple list of executables' dependencies, the tool automatically produces a dependency table sorted by level, with the least dependent executables listed at the bottom and with the most dependent at the top. This organises the executables in a rational and repeatable manner that clarifies the high-level view of the inter-dependencies between the many executables. It can also be used to decide the order in which executables need to be built where the least dependent executable is built first.

A's tree:

```
. B
. . C
. C
```

B's tree:

```
. C
```

D's tree:

```
. A
. . B
. . . C
. . . C
. . C
. . E
. . . A
. . . . B
. . . . . C
. . . . C
```

E's tree:

```
. A
. . B
. . . C
. . C
```

F's tree:

```
. E
. . A
. . . B
. . . . C
. . . C
```

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SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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